

The only hope that we have in changing this country, in my humble opinion, is to pass some form of term limits. I ran on four issues. I am the first Republican to be elected in 120 years in my district. I ran not so much on Republican-Democrat differences, and they are great, and I am very proud to be a Republican, but I ran on the idea of let us change Congress for the good of our country.

Let us have a balanced budget amendment and make sure both parties, regardless of who is in control, spend within their limits. Let us give the President of the United States, regardless of party, the line-item veto so he or she can strike from our budget pork barrel projects to get us reelected, which both parties can succumb to.

Let us make every law in the land apply to every Member of Congress, so we will understand what it is like to live in America, not just in Washington, DC, in a protected class.

The fourth institutional reform I ran on was term limits. After being up here 100 days, that is the cornerstone of reform. We need to have people come to this body with a different motivation, with a different mind-set. People should come here wanting to make the world where they came from better, not the world in Washington better for themselves. The game should not be "How can I become a committee chairman or subcommittee chairman?" The game should be "How can I make my community better, how can I make my Nation better, and go home?"

There are so many people in America who have been denied the opportunity to serve in this body because when you are an incumbent, the money is great. I agree with the gentleman about lobbying reform and finance reform. I came from a State, South Carolina, where 18 people went to jail, who served in the General Assembly, for taking bribes. We have the strongest ethics law in the country. You can operate government and have reform, lobbying reform, campaign finance reform. I am for that.

However, the gentleman who just spoke misses the point for the needs of term limits. It works hand-in-hand. Money is a problem, but motivation is the real problem. People come up here and get trapped in the world which they become a part of, Washington, DC. It is unlike any world I have ever been in in my life. People spend money up here like you are not going to make it anymore. It is the most detached place I have ever been. It is so different from the world that I know.

The only way you are going to change our country, in my opinion, is to make sure that people come up here for a limited period of time and that they are working on improving the world from which they came.

Term limits, unfortunately, in many ways, is the only vehicle I know to bring that about. I am optimistic in 1996 that the votes of the American public will reflect the votes tonight, and that there will be a correlation be-

tween the people who defied the will of the American people in this body and those who get reelected on both sides of the aisle.

THE VOTE ON TERM LIMITS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FOX] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I want to also join with my colleague, the gentleman from South Carolina, LINDSEY GRAHAM, who I think spoke eloquently about the fact that the fight is not over. We may have fallen short tonight by not having 290 votes, but we had 208 votes, which as compared to years ago when they had 107 votes, we are much closer to our goal.

The Contract With America pledged to the American people that the House Republicans would bring this to a floor vote, and we are pledged to getting a successful 290 votes. This is going to happen one day.

Remember what brought us to this point. Forty years of Democratic rule in the House has created an institution less accountable by the American people. The longer Members have served in Congress, the more removed they become to the people who elected them. That lack of accountability in prior Congresses forced an environment that resulted in corruption of the House bank and the House post office.

Those scandals, along with Congress' inability to balance the budget and control runaway deficit spending, have rallied a significant majority of the American people in support of term limits. Term limits will end careerism in Congress. The Founding Fathers never envisioned the House as a House of Lords, but rather as a citizen legislature.

Term limits provide real choices for voters. Term limits do not restrict voter choices. On the contrary, they create more choices. After California, for instance, passed its term limits in 1990 for State legislators, the number of candidates running for office increased by 40 percent.

The American people also overwhelmingly support term limits. That is why tonight we should have passed it. There should have been more Democratic support for this legislation. Eighty-three percent of the Republicans supported it and only 18 percent of the Democrats. Yet poll after poll shows overwhelming support for term limits, in some polls as high as 85 percent of the public. There are already 22 States that have adopted term limit laws.

Finally, I would say this, Madam Speaker. The term limit laws are already imposed on other political offices. There is legal precedent for this. The President is limited to two terms of offices. Thirty-five States impose term limits on their Governors, as they do in our State of Pennsylvania.

I would ask those listening tonight and those in the gallery and my colleagues who are still here in the Chamber and those in their offices, consider when this legislation is brought back up, if you were not part of the movement to make the change, please talk to your constituents, talk to your friends and neighbors, and realize that along with the kinds of reforms we are going to have with franking and the gift ban and with campaign reform, this is just one more reform that the American people want us to do, because they realize that Congress can be accountable and can be accessible, and with their help and God's, we will make the final reform of term limits.

AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN TERM LIMITS: CHANGING PEOPLE'S ATTITUDES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. GUTKNECHT] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Madam Speaker, this has been a very historic day. For many years the Congress has wrestled with whether or not they would have an open vote under rules in which amendments could be offered to the whole issue of term limits.

I come to the Congress from the State of Minnesota, and having served 12 years in the Minnesota legislature, I became a late adapter to the whole notion of term limits. On the front of the House Chamber in the Minnesota House of Representatives, there is a sign in gold leaf. It says "Vox Populorum est vox Dei." In Latin I guess that translates to the voice of the people is the voice of God.

Before I was in the legislature, I was in sales, and went to a number of sales training programs. One of the most important words in terms of changing human behavior is the word "attitude." Before you can change people's behavior, you have to change their attitude. I think one of the most important arguments in favor of term limits is changing the word attitude or changing people's attitudes.

I think if people go to the Congress or if they go to the State legislature, if they go to the presidency, whatever the public office may be, if they know they are only going to serve for a limited amount of time, I think they go into that office with a much different attitude than if they see that as a lifelong career.

I think the American people are way out in front of us on this. I think in the final analysis they will prevail. In fact, the late Senator Everett Dirksen perhaps said it best when he said "The more I feel the heat, the more I see the light." I think more and more Members of Congress now are beginning to feel the heat from the American people, and they are beginning to see the light.

Am I disappointed, I would ask the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. GRAHAM], in the outcome tonight? To be sure, I am. I thought we were going to do much better. As a matter of fact I am an incurable optimist, and I thought if we could ever get this item up for a vote, the pressure of the American people alone would cause us to vote for it.

This is only round one in what will probably be a 15-round fight. I am reminded again when I think of the people of the immortal poem of Carl Sandburg. He wrote the poem "The People, Yes." He said "The people will live on. The learning and blundering people will live on. They will be tricked and sold, and again sold, and return to the nourishing earth for root holds. The people, so amazing in their resiliency, you can't laugh off their capacity to take it."

Well, the people have been tricked and the people have been sold, and the people will be tricked and sold again, but sooner or later, the people will prevail. The people of this country will stand loudly and strongly on the next election and they will say "We want people to go to Washington who will vote for term limits."

I believe and I predict that if we don't pass term limits yet in this session of the Congress, they will be passed in the 105th Congress, because I believe the Speaker was correct. It was not a hollow threat. I think he was only stating fact, that sooner or later the will of the people will prevail. As Sandburg said, "The People, Yes."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. There being no designee of the majority leader, under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentlewoman from Georgia [Ms. MCKINNEY] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

[Ms. MCKINNEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Vermont [Mr. SANDERS] is recognized for 60 minutes.

[Mr. SANDERS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. SCARBOROUGH] is recognized for 60 minutes.

[Mr. SCARBOROUGH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BECERRA) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MFUME, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BECERRA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. OWENS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MALONEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFazio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. POSHARD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MONTGOMERY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HAYWORTH) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. FORBES, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. NORWOOD, for 5 minutes, on March 30.

Mr. BEREUTER, for 5 minutes, on March 30.

Mr. KIM, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. RIGGS, for 5 minutes each day, on today and March 30.

Mr. LONGLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. WISE, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. GRAHAM, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. GUTKNECHT, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BECERRA) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. NEAL.

Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ.

Ms. RIVERS.

Mr. HAMILTON.

Mr. STOKES.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida in three instances.

Mr. GIBBONS.

Mr. ENGEL in two instances.

Mr. HOYER.

Mr. MONTGOMERY.

Mr. BERMAN.

Ms. LOFGREN.

Mr. ACKERMAN.

Mr. KILDEE.

Mr. SANDERS.

Mr. JACOBS.

Mr. MANTON.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HAYWORTH) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. DAVIS.

Mr. GILMAN.

Mr. BILIRAKIS.

Mr. PACKARD.

Mr. LAZIO of New York.

Mr. WALSH.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GUTKNECHT) and to include extraneous matter:)

Ms. FURSE.

Mr. FILNER.

Mr. KLECZKA.

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ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GRAHAM. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, March 30, 1995, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

636. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Defense, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled, "National Defense Technology and Industrial Base, Defense Reinvestment, and Defense Conversion"; to the Committee on National Security.

637. A letter from the Comptroller of the Currency, transmitting the annual report on enforcement actions taken by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency during the 12-month period ending December 31, 1994, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1833; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

638. A letter from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation to extend the authorization of appropriations for programs under the Native American Programs Act of 1974, and for other purposes, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1110; to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

639. A letter from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final spectrum reallocation report, pursuant to title VI of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993; to the Committee on Commerce.

640. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency, transmitting the Department of the Army's proposed lease of defense articles to the Netherlands (Transmittal No. 16-95), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2796a(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

641. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a copy of Presidential Determination No. 95-17: Drawdown of Commodities and Services from the Inventory and Resources of the Department of Defense to Support Activities of the Palestinian Police Force, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2348a; to the Committee on International Relations.

642. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency, transmitting a copy of Transmittal No. C-95 which relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 93-22 of June 24, 1993, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(b)(5); to the Committee on International Relations.